

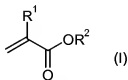
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as indicated below.

1. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing poly(meth)acrylates curable with at least one of actinic radiation or dual-cure utilizing actinic radiation and thermal cure, comprising the following steps:

a) preparing a poly(meth)acrylate containing hydroxy-functional side chains by polymerizing

aa) at least one (meth)acrylate of the general formula (I) as component A

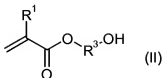


in which

R¹ is H, CH₃ or CH₂OH and

R² is an alkyl radical which is unsubstituted or substituted by functional groups ~~such as chosen from the group consisting of~~ acrylic, ether, amino, epoxy, halogen ~~or and~~ sulfonic acid groups, and

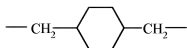
ab) at least one hydroxyalkyl (meth)acrylate of the general formula (II) as component B



in which

R¹ is H, CH₃ or CH₂OH and

R^3 is $-(CH_2)_n-$, $-CH_2-CH(CH_3)-CH_2-$ or $-CH_2CH(CH_3)-$ or $-CH(CH_3)CH_2-$ or



n is at least 2, and

ac) if desired, further comonomers, copolymerizable with the (meth)acrylates of the general formula (I) and (II), as component C, and

ad) if desired, auxiliary monomers as component D;

and

b) transesterifying or esterifying the poly(meth)acrylate containing hydroxy-functional side chains with a (meth)acrylate or (meth)acrylic acid in the presence of an enzyme which catalyzes the transesterification or esterification.

2. (Original) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein step a) is carried out using
 - 10 to 80% by weight of component A,
 - 10 to 80% by weight of component B,
 - 0 to 50% by weight of component C, and
 - 0 to 15% by weight of component D.
3. (Previously Presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein enzymes used in step b) are hydrolases selected from the group consisting of lipases, esterases, and proteases.
4. (Previously Presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein step b) is carried out using methyl, ethyl, 2-ethylhexyl or butyl (meth)acrylate.

5. (Previously Presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the temperature at which step b) is conducted is 20 to 100°C..
6. (Previously Presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein component B is selected from the group consisting of 2-hydroxyethyl (meth)acrylate, 2-hydroxypropyl (meth)acrylate, and hydroxybutyl (meth)acrylate.
7. (Previously Presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein 5 to 100% of the side chains of the poly(meth)acrylate prepared in accordance with step a) have been (meth)acrylated.
8. (Previously Presented) Poly(meth)acrylates prepared by a process as claimed in claim 1.
9. (Canceled)
10. (Previously Presented) A topcoat containing
 - 5 to 80% by weight of at least one poly(meth)acrylate prepared according to claim 1 comprising
 - 0.5 to 15% by weight of at least one photoinitiator,
 - 0.5 to 8% by weight of further auxiliaries and additives,
 - 0 to 40% by weight of pigments, and
 - 0 to 40% by weight of at least one filler.
11. (Original) A process for preparing a coating formulation as claimed in claim 10, in which the individual components are mixed with one another.
12. (Canceled)
13. (Previously Presented) A dispersion comprising the poly(meth) acrylate of claim 8.

14. (Previously Presented) A coating composition comprising the the poly(meth)acrylate of claim 8.
15. (Previously Presented) A coating composition comprising the poly(meth)acrylate of claim 8 selected from primers, surfacers and topcoats.
16. (Previously Presented) A topcoating composition comprising the the poly(meth)acrylate of claim 8.
17. (Previously Presented) A transparent clearcoat composition comprising the poly(meth)acrylate of claim 8.
18. (Previously Presented) A process for preparing dispersions or coating formulations comprising the step of adding poly(meth)acrylates curable with actinic radiation or both actinic radiation and thermal cure as claimed in claim 8 as binders to dispersions or coating formulations .